

## Billy Sunday Renews Rum Fight

An Omaha, Nebr., dispatch to the Kansas City Star, dated Aug. 19, says: The lightning express whizzing across the continent from Oregon to New Jersey, dropped Billy Sunday off in Nebraska long enough to make four shrieking attacks on "demon rum," and then caught him up again last night and whizzed on.

After the close of the big meetings in Kansas City in June Billy and "Ma" and Billy, jr., and Little Paul went to a bungalow in the Oregon mountains to rest. Mr. Sunday is to begin a ten days' revival in Ocean Beach, N. J., the latter part of this month, and begins a seven weeks' revival in Detroit September 10.

### Offered \$1,000 to Mr. Sunday

One day a committee from Nebraska arrived with a plea that on the way across America he should stop off in this state and help in the prohibition campaign.

"I can't do it," said Billy. "I'm tired yet from last winter's work and I've got to begin in New Jersey right away."

The committee begged him, offered \$1,000, started to raise it to two thousand and told him how the liquor interests were spending one million dollars to defeat prohibition in Nebraska this fall.

"What!" says Billy. "That weasel-eyed, hog-jowled, pot-bellied, bear-eyed bunch? I'll go. I'll give you two days and that's all I can spare; but you keep your money. I don't want a cent. Nebraska has already given me enough."

When that got into the papers on the coast it started something. A prohibition campaign is on in British Columbia and they had been trying to get Billy, so down come the committees again, and he had to consent to make a couple of speeches. Portland had been after him too, and he had to promise them; and then the folks in Hood River, where he lives, sent a committee.

"Seems to us you ought to give home folks a chance to hear that booze sermon," they said.

Billy threw up his hands and sur-

rendered. He packed the trunks and sent them on to New Jersey, gave his booze sermon to the home folks in Hood River, was whisked off to Portland and gave it there, jumped to Vancouver, then to Victoria, where he spoke to audiences of ten thousand, then back to catch the transcontinental express, arriving at North Platte, Nebraska, Thursday afternoon, where he spoke to five thousand in a big tent.

While he spoke there a special train with steam up was waiting. As soon as his speech was finished, a motor car rushed him to the special, which gave a wild toot and sped over a clear track to Grand Island, Neb.

Billy, wet with perspiration, took a sponge bath in his car, put on dry clothing and lay back to rest. Reaching Grand Island just in time to rush to the tent which was filled with seven thousand persons, he tore through his booze sermon again, finished in time to catch a fast train to Omaha.

### Paul Sunday Operated Upon

Here, Friday morning, little Paul was operated upon for enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and Mr. Sunday watched it safely over, then caught a train back to Lincoln, spoke that noon to three thousand, was hurried again to Omaha, spoke there last night to five thousand and finished, as wet as if he had been ducked in the river, with just ten minutes to spare in which to catch the east-bound limited, with little Paul and his doctor aboard, too, and Paul showing no bad effects. So, on they went into the night, after four booze sermons in three days on the coast, and four booze sermons in Nebraska in two days. That is going some, even for Billy Sunday.

And he didn't get a cent for it, anywhere. In addition he gave \$200 to the prohibition cause in Vancouver and Victoria. He could have got one thousand dollars apiece for eight lectures any time, but he says he is not speaking for money. In his revival work he takes only what the people choose to give.

### All Promise to Vote "Dry"

After each of his four speeches in this state he said to his audiences:

"How many here will say, 'Bill, on election day I'll vote against the saloon?' Stand up." And the four audiences leaped to their feet.

The audiences in North Platte and Grand Island were mixed, but in Lincoln and Omaha they were men only.

The state is to vote in November on a prohibition amendment to the constitution, initiated under the initiative law. It began with a mass convention, the largest ever held in the state, last September, to which everyone interested in prohibition was invited. An executive committee of eight persons chosen to manage the campaign was composed of representatives from each of the political parties, from organized labor, the Anti-Saloon league and the W. C. T. U. It was necessary to have 15 per cent of the voters in the state sign an initiative petition. Only 37,000 signers were required, but there were 60,000.

The amendment, to carry, must get a majority of the vote cast on the proposition, provided the vote for the amendment equals 35 per cent of all the votes cast.

### "Drys" Are Gaining Steadily

The campaign for prohibition is conducted by the Nebraska Dry federation, assisted by the Anti-Saloon league and all other "dry" organizations. Its headquarters are in Lin-



SOMETHING ABOUT TO HAPPEN

—Henderson in the Westerville American Issue.

coln, W. T. Thompson is at the head. It has subcommittees and a branch in each county, and there are five or six auxiliaries in each county.

There are ninety-two counties in the state. Thirty-two are "dry" now, under local option. The state has 378 "dry" towns and cities and 169 "wet." In the election last spring twenty-seven towns with a population aggregating 45,000 went "dry," and seventy-eight saloons in them were closed. This indicates the trend of sentiment in Nebraska, which is growing in favor of prohibition. But the result this fall is so doubtful neither side is confident. It is admitted the liquor interests caused the recent defeat of William J. Bryan for delegate to the democratic national convention, and that they defeated woman suffrage in this state. These tests indicate the strength of the liquor forces. On the other hand, in the primaries this spring the "dry" candidates ran amazingly well. In Omaha the "wets" expected their candidates to get majorities of about 15,000, but they only broke even with the "drys," and everyone was surprised.

### Kansas a Horrible Example

Omaha business men are mostly "wet," believing the saloon helps business. Lincoln is overwhelmingly "dry" in sentiment, but has twenty-five saloons because Lincoln is a rival of Omaha in the jobbing business and it is afraid to be "dry" when Omaha is "wet." Lincoln would rather be "dry," having experienced two years of it, if Omaha would consent to be "dry," too.

The World-Herald of Omaha is "wet." The Bee is "wet," too. The News is "dry," and will not accept whisky advertisements, but does print the paid arguments of the liquor men against prohibition. In Lincoln the Journal and News are "dry" and the Star "wet." The majority of country newspapers are "dry."

Liquor men are waging their fight through "The Prosperity League." This league is covering the state with literature arguing prohibition ruins

business. It cites principally Kansas as an example of how prohibition blights everything it touches. According to the "Prosperity League," Kansas jails, insane asylums and poorhouses are overflowing with inmates, banks are empty, illiteracy and crime run wild, grass grows in the streets and there is no business at all in Kansas, just because there are no saloons there.

### Billy Tells the Facts

It was fun to hear Billy Sunday take the hide off the "Prosperity League" and its arguments, first he showed its officers owned saloons and breweries.

"The arguments of the Prosperity league are all lies," he shouted, and then he gave the actual facts from Kansas, the statistics furnished by Governor Capper.

"In Kansas there is not a newspaper that will carry a beer or whisky advertisement," he said in his speech here last night. "And in Kansas City is one of the greatest newspapers in all the world, the Star, that you couldn't get a beer or whisky advertisement in if you went with a million dollars to buy it."

Then he gave the real facts about Kansas, how it has thirty-eight counties without a pauper; sixty-five counties that did not have a man in jail all last year; ninety-six counties without a drunkard; of its 220 millions of dollars in savings bank deposits; of how, when New York was on the financial rocks, Kansas sent 55 million dollars to keep her out of the poorhouse.

"If there is a heaven for fools the fellow who thinks the saloon helps business will be on the front seat," he said. He told how prohibition had helped business in Oregon.

"The man who will vote for the saloon is as low down as the saloon and the newspaper that supports the saloon is as low down as the saloon. Last year twenty-four thousand saloons were voted out in this country. Prohibition is the one great issue from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The whisky men know the roof is about to fall in on their heads and I have

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December 31, 1906.....	\$ 559,000
December 31, 1908.....	1,453,218
December 31, 1910.....	2,641,084
December 31, 1912.....	4,805,502
December 31, 1914.....	6,580,604
December 31, 1915.....	7,618,000
August 31, 1916.....	8,451,683

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